GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5623
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2005
AMENDMENT TO ARTICLES OF CONSTITUTION
Rawale Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals of Maharashtra Government seeking permission/approval for amending certain articles of the constitution which are lying pending with the Union Government;

(b) since when such proposals are pending;

(c) the reasons for such a long pendency; and

(d) the time by which such proposals are likely to be cleared?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) to (d): A proposal to amend Article 371 (2)of the Constitution for establishment of a separate Development Board for the Konkan region was received from the Government of Maharashtra in May 1998. Before a decision on the proposal of the Government of Maharashtra was taken, it was considered advisable to ascertain the effectiveness with which the three existing development boards had worked towards attaining the objectives enshrined in the Constitution. The Planning Commission was requested in August 1998 to give its assessment of the working of the said development boards. Accordingly, the Planning Commission had undertaken a detailed performance evaluation study on the working of the three existing development boards in Maharashtra and submitted their report to the Government in April 2003. While examining the Planning Commission`s Study Report, it was observed that data available in the Human Development Report published by the Government of Maharashtra revealed that considerable development had already taken place in the Konkan region. In view of the development achieved in the Konkan region as part of the Development Board for the Rest of Maharashtra, the Government of Maharashtra was requested to reconsider its proposal and send their comments. The Government of Maharashtra has sent their reply very recently.